PTO/SB/21 (08-00), Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031 ease type a plus sign (+) inside this box -> + U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERC Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number 10/039.240 Application Number TRANSMITTAL Filing Date January 4, 2002 **FORM** First Named Inventor Vincent E. Bryan 3763 Group Art Unit (To be used for all correspondence **Examiner Name** after initial filing) 170134.401 Attorney Docket No. ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) Drawing(s) CD(s), Number Fee Transmittal Form Request for Corrected Filing of CD(s) Fee Attached Receipt Amendment/Response After Allowance Licensing-related Papers Communication to Group After Final Petition Affidavits/declaration(s) Appeal Communication to Petition to Convert to a Board of Appeals and Extension of Time Request Provisional Application Interferences **Express Abandonment** Power of Attorney, Appeal Communication to Request Revocation, Change of Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Information Disclosure Correspondence Address Reply Brief) Statement; Form PTO-1449 Declaration **Proprietary Information** Cited References (5) Statement under 37 CFR Status Letter **Certified Copy of Priority** 3.73(b) Return Receipt Postcard Document(s) Terminal Disclaimer Additional Enclosure(s) Response to Missing Parts Request for Refund (please identify below): under 37 C.F.R. 1.52 or 1.53 Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Individual Name	E. Russell Tarleton	00500 PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE
Signature	E Dwell Lauloto	
Date	June 17, 2003	

	CERTIFICATE OF N	
with sufficient postage as	orrespondence is being deposit first class mail in an envelope a, VA 22313-1450 on the date s	ed with the United States Postal Service addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, specified below.
Typed or printed name	Jason Añøver	
Signature		Date: June 17, 2003

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I hereby certify that on the date specified below, this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Jhre 17, 2003

Date

JUN 2 0 2003

Jason Añove

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Vincent E. Bryan et al.

Application No.

10/039,240

Filed

January 4, 2002

For

SPINAL NEEDLE SYSTEM

Art Unit

3763

Docket No.

170134.401

Date

June 17, 2003

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97 through 1.98, applicants wish to make known to the Patent and Trademark Office the references set forth on the attached form PTO-1449 (copies of the cited references, as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, are enclosed). As to any reference supplied, applicants do not admit that it is "prior art" under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 or 103, and specifically reserve the right to traverse or antedate any such reference, as by a showing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or other method. Although the aforesaid references are made known to the Patent and Trademark Office in compliance with applicants' duty to disclose all information they are aware of which is believed relevant to the examination of the above-identified application, applicants believe that their invention is patentable.

We hereby certify that each of the references set forth on the attached form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Please acknowledge receipt of this Information Disclosure Statement and kindly make the cited references of record in the above-identified application.

Applicants believe this Information Disclosure Statement has been timely filed, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee due by way of this Information Disclosure Statement to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,
Vincent E. Bryan et al.
Seed Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC

E. Russell Tarleton Registration No. 31,800

Enclosures:

Postcard Form PTO-1449 Cited References (5)

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